8th September 1960]

Extension of Harbour

* 106 Q.—SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to lease further a portion of the foreshore in front of the Fort St. George to the Government of India for purposes of extension of the Harbour; and

(b) if so, the extent of area proposed to be leased out and the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Am I to understand that the exension will stop where it is now or that the Government will allow the use of some more land on the Beach?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Both the question and the answer are a little trickish. The hon. Member wants to know whether any further extension will be made and the answer is 'No'. Now, the whole area from the " Kelly's Drain " up to the mouth of the Cooum river has been given over for harbour extension except a portion for the Cooum Mouth River Development and a portion for Defence purposes. The long stretch along the road will be made a park and made available to the public.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Is the Hon. Minister aware of the very strong sentiments on the part of the citizens of Madras about the ceding away of so much land down south which has denied particularly the citizens in the north of Madras the use of the Beach?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Apart from the strong sentiments of the people, the Public Health Minister had very, very strong sentiments and did not want to part with the land. But he had to bow due to force of circumstances. Development of commerce is very necessary and so I had to bow.

Health Officers

* 107 Q.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of vacancies in the post of Health Officers in the Madras Public Health Service advertised in 1958–59 and 1959–60; and

(b) the number recruited?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) Fifty-eight vacancies in 1958–59 and sixty-nine in 1959–60 were advertised by the Madras Public Service Commission.

(b) Three candidates in 1958–59 and two in 1959–60 were selected by the Commission.